مہودے کو یہ کہنا پڑیگا کہ اسکی کیا ضرورت رہی ہے اور کسی لئے یہ ضروری ہے۔

श्री यशवन्त सिन्हा: मैडम कोई जरूरत नहीं है । बहुत मामूली बात है कि कुछ लोगों ने प्रतिवेदन दिया था । हम विचार कर नोटिफिकेशन निकाल रहे हैं । जैसा हमने कहा हम पूरी ईमानदारी के साथ लेकर उसको सदन की टेबल पर रखना चाहते हैं । जब आप परमीशन देंगी,हम रखेंगे अभी आप परमीशन देंगी तो अभी रखेंगे ।

उपसभापति: आपने लोक सभा में रख दिया हैं?

श्री यशवन्त सिंन्हा: वह मैं नहीं जानता क्योंकि मैं तो यहां था।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Have you laid it on the Table of the Lok Sabha? We do not want any discrepancy between both the Houses. If it has been laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha, then it should be laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha also. If it is going to be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha tomorrow, then we will also do it tomorrow in the morning. ...*(Interruptions)*... I just want to say one thing ...*(Interruptions)*... When I am asking the Minister, it will be in keeping with your dignity not to unecessarily make comments. We are very senior people. ...*(Interruptions)*...Has it been laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha? It is a.financial matter; so it should have been done.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI R. JANARTHANAM): Madam, it has not been laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. I am laying it here .. ..*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Are you going to lay it today?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Madam, we have requested the Speaker also and we will try to lay it on the Tables of both the Houses of Parliament, if you permit.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Do you want to lay it now or do you want to do it later? ...*(Interruptions)*... Okay, the House is not going to object to it because if it has to be laid, it has to be laid. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA : Madam, I want to seek some clarifications from the Finance Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is not a *suo motu* statement where we can allow clarifications. The statement of the Minister was in reply to a full-fledged debate ...*(Interruptions)*... Just a minute. ...*(Interruptions)*... Just one second. ...*(Interruptions)*... At least, let me finish my sentence. Otherwise, you will not know what I am trying to say. We had a full-fledged debate which lasted not for four hours but more than that. It spilled over today and today we have discussed it up to 4.30 P.M. Now, if you could not put your questions or seek clarifications in your speech and if the Minister did not answer them in his speech, I am quite sure by your clarifications you would not be satisfied. He is not going to answer because if he wanted to answer it, he could have done it earlier. So, let me go ahead with the other business. ...*(Interruptions)*... Never mind. ... *(Interruptions)*...

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE—Contd.

Notification of Ministry of Finance

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANARTHANAM): Madam, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of section 97 of the Finance (No. 2) Act, 1998, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) Notification dated the 8th December, 1998 publishing the Kar Vivad Samadhan Scheme (Removal of Difficulties) Order, 1998 seeking to remove certain difficulties in the administration of the Kar Vivad

Samadhan Scheme, 1998, together with an explanatory memorandum thereon.

I STATUTORY RESOLUTION SEEKING DISAPPROVAL OF THE OILFIELDS (REGULATION AND DEVELOPMENT) AMENDMENT ORDINANCE, 1998

II. THE OILFIELDS (REGULATION AND DEVELOPMENT) BILL, 1998

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up the Statutory Resolution. Shri Gaya Singh, Shri Gurudas Das Gupta, Shri J. Chitharanjan, Shri Kapil and Shri Nilotpal Basu. I think all these Members are not very serious to move it. They should know once they give a notice.....*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN (Kerala): Madam, I move:

> "That this House disapproves of the Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Amendment Ordinance, 1998 (No. 17 of 1998) promulgated by the President on the 3rd September, 1998."

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY): Madam, I beg to move:

> "That the Bill further to amend the Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948, as passed by the Lok Sabha be taken into consideration."

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Would you like to speak on it?

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: If the House desires, I will speak.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. You have to speak and explain to the House why are you going to do it. It is a motion you have moved for of this Ordinance. For that, you have to give an explanation, why have you brought this Ordinance in the first place.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Madam, Deputy Chairperson, I am thankful to the House for having taken to this Bill for consideration. The Ordinance was promulgated by the President of India on 3rd September, 1998 with regard to the Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948. This Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha during the last Session but could not be taken into consideration because of paucity of time. This Bill was necessitated because of an Ordinance promulgated by the President on 3rd September, 1998, and it has to be approved by both the Lower House and the Upper House to make it into an enactment. This Bill is nothing but an enabling provision which empowers the Government of India to have certain amendments in the fixation of the royalty and also in the fixation of different rates for the oil minerals which are there in the existing Royalty Act. Presently, the Government of India is empowered to fix the royalty-percentage in a three year block period both on off-shore and onshore. It is being getting delayed. Many State Governments have approached the Ministry and the Government of India for amendment. Undue delay in settlement of the royalty is also making a lot of revenue adjustment in the States concerned. For example, from 1993 to 1996 and till 01.04.1998, we could not finally settle the royalty bill because a certificate is due from the CAG. We are paying royalty on an ad hoc basis. At present our requirement of oil is around 91 million metric tonnes per annum against the present indigenous production of 34 million metric tonnes per annum. The requirement is likely to go up in the 9th Plan period. The 9th Plan projection is, 122 million metric tonnes. It is expected that there will be a gap of about 39 million metric tonnes between demand and indigenous production. "he Government of India from 1993 onwards is making efforts for effering certain blocks. Madam, certain blocks have been identified and have been given to the private entrepreneurs — both inside and outside the country — and also to joint ventures of our own national oil companies for private exploration.